

WISCONSIN

2000

Early September

Canada Goose

Hunting Regulations

Remember to report each Canada goose harvested within 48 hours of the kill by calling 1-800-99-GOOSE.



September 1 and 5-15, 2000



State of Wisconsin
Department of Natural Resources
PUBL-WM-194 00

2000 Wisconsin Early September

Canada Goose Hunt Regulations

Dear Early September
Canada Goose Season Hunter,

We are expanding the Early September Canada goose season statewide for this fall. To participate in this hunting season, you will need an Early September Canada goose permit. This permit is valid statewide. Your participation in this season will not affect your participation in the Regular Canada goose seasons. The early season provides both extra days afield as well as helps control our growing population of Canada geese nesting in Wisconsin. The season occurs before the migrant populations of Canada geese that nest in northern Canada arrive in Wisconsin.

If this is your first year participating in the Early September Season, we encourage you to read over this entire pamphlet for rules such as permit validation and harvest reporting that are mandatory for participants in this hunt.

The Early September season is held at the time of the year when Wisconsin experiences the greatest diversity of outdoor activities. A few non-hunters may be surprised to encounter Canada goose hunters in early September. We know you will respect their right to use the great outdoors. There is space out there for all users and we must respect each other's pursuits.

Finally, for those of you participating in this early season for the first time, don't be fooled into thinking that bagging a Canada goose will be easy. Like the later seasons, those that spend time scouting are most successful while those that just head for their normal fall hunting location may not find many birds.

Have a successful and safe season and don't forget to respect private lands and other recreational users of our great outdoors. Your actions reflect on us all.

Jon R. Bergquist, CWB
Migratory Game Bird Ecologist

Other Information: The purpose of this hunt is to provide additional harvest of local giant Canada goose populations. All usual state and federal restrictions for waterfowl hunting will apply to this early September Canada goose season.

Possession Restrictions

- Retrieval:** No person may kill or cripple any game bird without making every reasonable effort to retrieve such bird. A hunter who cripples a bird which falls or moves into open water may immediately pursue the bird into open water and shoot from a boat while being propelled by paddle, oars or pole.

Reporting and Validating Requirements:

- Once a goose has been harvested, the harvest record card must be validated (punched) **before** the goose is transported in any manner.
- Hunters must report each goose harvested within 48 hours of the kill by calling, toll free, 1-800-99-GOOSE (1-800-994-6673).
- Tagging:** No person may give, put, or leave any migratory game birds at any place or in the custody of another person unless the birds are tagged by the hunter with the following information:
 - The hunter's signature
 - The hunter's address
 - The total number of birds involved
 - The dates such birds were killed

No person or business may receive or have in custody any migratory game birds belonging to another person unless such birds are properly tagged and a record of such receipt is kept by the business.

- Possession of live birds:** Wounded birds reduced to possession shall be immediately killed and included in the daily bag limit.

- Important:** For information regarding the importation of migratory game birds killed in another country, hunters should consult 50 CFR 20.61 through 20.66 (a copy can be obtained from the USFWS address shown under "Caution").
- Shipment:** No person may ship migratory game birds unless the package is marked on the outside with:
 - The name and address of the person sending the birds
 - The name and address of the person to whom the birds are being sent
 - The number of birds in the package
- Transportation:** After validating your permit, migratory game birds may be field dressed before they are transported from the field. However, the head or one fully feathered wing must remain attached to all migratory game birds being (1) transported from the field *to* the person's permanent abode *and* (2) between a hunting cabin, camp, motel or other temporary abode *to* the permanent abode.

Bird Bands: Should you obtain a bird band, call 1-800-327-BAND to report the date and location of recovery. You may also flatten the band out and tape it to a 3x5 postcard or simply write the number on a 3x5 postcard. Add the date and location of recovery, your name and address and mail the card to: National Biological Service B.B.L. 12100 Beach Forest Rd. Suite 4037, Laurel, Maryland 20708-4037

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources provides equal opportunity in its employment, programs, services and functions under an Affirmative Action Plan. If you have any questions, please write to Equal Opportunity Office, Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240.

This brochure is available in alternate format upon request.



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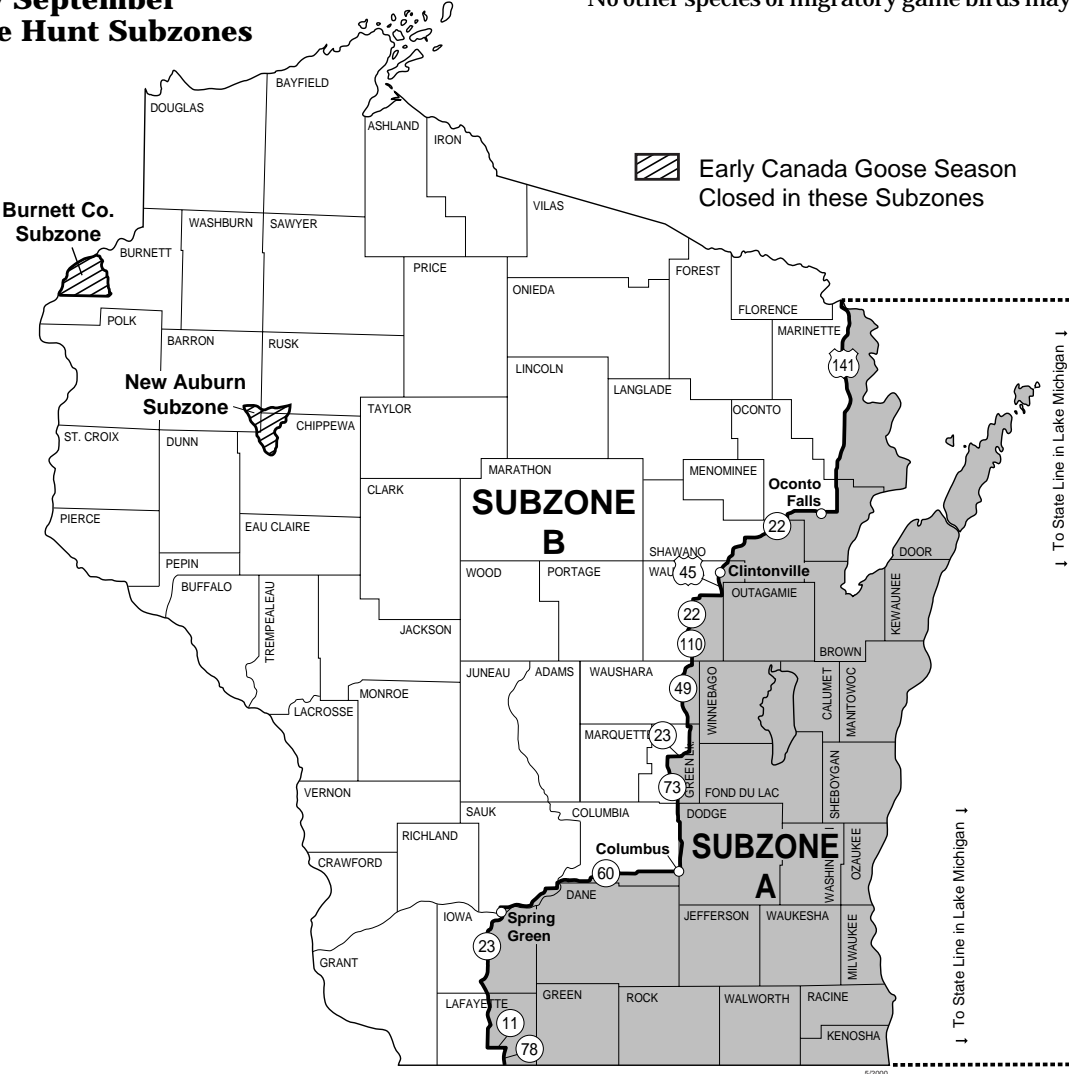
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Participation:

The season is open to all licensed hunters who possess an Early September Canada Goose Hunting Permit. Permit stickers are available for \$3.00 at DNR offices and from many license vendors. Hunting permits may be purchased at any time prior to and during the Early Sept. Canada Goose season. Participation in this hunt will not affect your participation in any Zone hunt during regular Canada goose seasons.

Early September

Goose Hunt Subzones



Warning

Some of the areas located in these goose hunting subzones have local firearm discharge restrictions. Please contact the appropriate local enforcement authorities to see if there are any local restrictions on the discharge of firearms in the area you plan to hunt.

Daily Bag and Possession Limits:
Subzone A - 5 Canada geese daily, 10 in possession
Subzone B - 3 Canada geese daily, 6 in possession
No other species of migratory game birds may be taken.

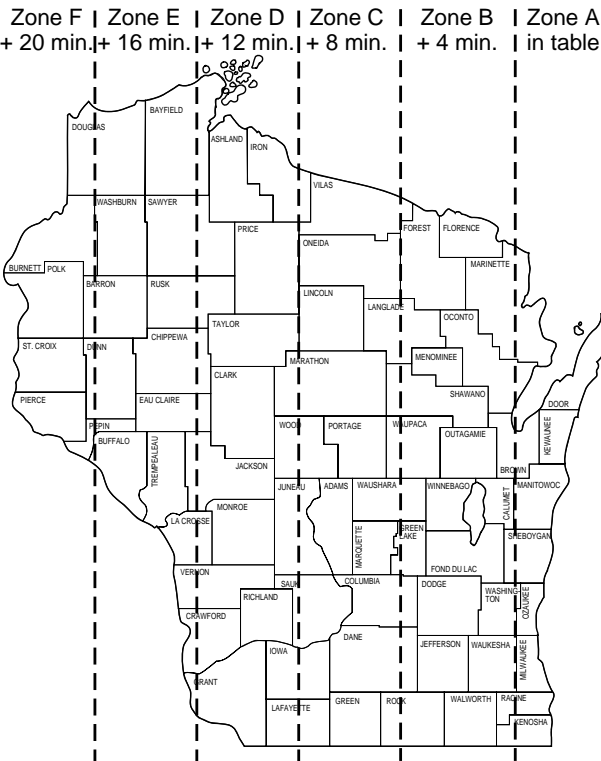
Calculating hunting hours:

Six hunting hour zones are shown on the map to the right. Add the minutes shown for the zone in which you are hunting to the opening and closing times listed under “Hunting Hours.” Shooting hours are 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset.

Hunting Hours

Sept. 1	5:46AM-7:27PM
Sept. 5	5:50AM-7:20PM
Sept. 6	5:51AM-7:18PM
Sept. 7	5:52AM-7:16PM
Sept. 8	5:53AM-7:15PM
Sept. 9	5:54AM-7:13PM
Sept. 10	5:55AM-7:11PM
Sept. 11	5:56AM-7:09PM
Sept. 12	5:58AM-7:08PM
Sept. 13	5:59AM-7:06PM
Sept. 14	6:00AM-7:04PM
Sept. 15	6:01AM-7:02PM

Hunting Hour Zones



Non-Toxic Shot:

Non-toxic shot (see Section 4) use is required for all waterfowl hunting.

Permits, licenses and stamps:

All hunters must possess a current Wisconsin small game hunting license, a current WI Early September Canada Goose Hunting Permit, Harvest Information Program (HIP) registration, a Harvest record card, federal waterfowl stamp and the state waterfowl stamp privilege (on your license) to participate in this early season. (Note: a person who has not reached the age of 16 years is not required to have either stamp.) Wisconsin hunter safety graduates do not need to purchase the state stamp during the period in which the small game hunting privilege is free, but they must possess all other requirements. Senior Citizen Recreation Card and Conservation Patron license holders are also exempt from the state stamp requirement, but a federal waterfowl stamp is required.

Pick up litter and keep your hunting grounds healthy!

State and Federal Migratory Game Bird Restrictions

Migratory game birds include ducks, geese, brant, rails, coots, gallinules, woodcock and snipe. The restrictions which apply include all those listed in the general hunting regulations (separate pamphlet) plus the following:

All rules below are both State (S) and Federal (F) unless specifically noted.

- **Dual violation:** Violation of state migratory bird regulations is also a violation of federal regulations.
- **Caution:** More restrictive regulations may apply to National Wildlife Refuges and Federally owned Waterfowl Production Areas open to public hunting. For additional information on federal regulations, contact U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Regional Migratory Bird Coordinator, Federal Building, Fort Snelling, MN 55111-4056. Telephone: (612) 713-5300. It is the **hunter’s** responsibility to know what rules apply.

While pursuing migratory game birds, it is illegal to:

- **Hours:** Hunt before or after established hunting hours.
- **Closed season:** Take migratory game birds during the closed season.
- **Daily bag limits:** Take, in any one day, more than one daily bag limit.

Methods Restrictions

1. Open Water (S)

“Open water” means any water beyond a natural growth of vegetation rooted to the bottom and extending above the water surface of such height as to offer whole or partial concealment to the hunter. Dead stumps and dead trees in the water do not constitute a natural growth of vegetation.

- **Open Water Hunting:** No person may hunt waterfowl in open water from any blind which may include any boat, canoe, raft, contrivance, or similar device except: on Big Green Lake and the Great Lakes if beyond 500 feet of the shoreline (blinds need not be anchored) or 1000 feet of any lake or island shoreline on Lake Winnebago (blinds must be anchored). All open water blinds shall be removed at the close of hunting hours each day.

Note: You may hunt in any open water area provided you are standing on the bottom without the aid of a blind. Blinds mean any securely anchored boat, canoe, raft or similar device.

- **Jump Shooting:** The open water restrictions are not intended to prohibit legal jump shooting activities. It is legal to hunt by boat in streams. However, on larger bodies of water, the hunter must keep a portion of the boat in natural veg-

etation. Skirting the edge of rivers and lakes in this manner is considered legal.

2. Structures, Boats and Vehicles

While pursuing migratory game birds, it is illegal to:

- **Structures (S):** Hunt from any pier, dam, dock, breakwater or similar artificial structure. Class A disabled hunting permit holders are exempted.
- **Sink box:** Hunt from a sink box (a low floating device, having a depression affording the hunter a means of concealment beneath the surface of the water).
- **Waterfowl blinds (S):** Establish a waterfowl blind on state property, including the bed of any navigable lake, prior to 7 days before the season or leave it established beyond 7 days after the close of the season. Any blind left on state property during the season must permanently bear the name (in lettering one-inch square or larger) of the person who constructed the blind.
- **Moving boats:** Hunt from any *moving* boat *not* in open water unless it is propelled by paddle, oars or pole. Motorboats and sailboats must have their motors completely shut off and/or the sail furled before loading and shooting.
- **Vehicle use:** Take migratory game birds from, or with the aid or use of, any vehicle except by qualified disabled persons under DNR permit.

3. Devices

While pursuing migratory game birds, it is illegal to:

- **Decoys:** Hunt with decoys which are:
 1. Placed beyond 200 feet from the blind or cover in which the hunter is located (S).
 2. Placed in the water prior to one hour before the opening of waterfowl hunting time (S).
 3. Left in the water more than 20 minutes after the close of waterfowl hunting time (S).
 4. Left in the water unattended. *Note: You may leave decoys unattended on dry land* (S).
 5. Live, regardless of distance from the hunter. It is also illegal to hunt with the aid of or use of live decoys.

All live, tame, or captive ducks and geese shall be removed for a period of 10 consecutive days prior to hunting, and confined within an enclosure which substantially reduces the audibility of their calls and totally conceals such birds from the sight of migratory waterfowl.

- **Bird calls:** Use records, tapes or CDs of migratory bird calls or sounds or electronically amplified imitations of bird calls.
- **Baiting:** Hunt on or over a baited area or by the aid of baiting (placing feed such as corn, wheat,

salt or other feed to constitute a lure or enticement). Hunters should be aware that a baited area is considered to be baited for 10 days after the removal of the bait, and it is not necessary for the hunter to know an area is baited to be in violation.

- **Hazing:** Use in any manner any air, water, or motor-driven land conveyance for the purposes of concentrating, driving, rallying, or stirring up any migratory game bird to put them in the range of hunters.

4. Guns and Ammunition

While pursuing migratory game birds, it is illegal to:

- **Shotguns:** Hunt with anything other than a shotgun fired from the shoulder, bow and arrow, or by falconry. Persons possessing Class A disabled or crossbow hunting permits may use a crossbow. Taking with a trap, snare, net, rifle, pistol, swivel gun, shotgun larger than 10 gauge, punt gun, battery gun, machine gun, fishhook, poison, drug, explosive, or stupefying substance is illegal.
- **Shotgun capacity:** Hunt with a shotgun capable of holding more than three shells, unless it is plugged with a one-piece filler which is incapable of removal without disassembling the gun.
- **Shot type:** Hunt with any type of lead shot when hunting waterfowl, coots and gallinules. Any shot used must be nontoxic (defined below). This means muzzleloaders must also use nontoxic shot. Only nontoxic sizes BB, BBB, T, or smaller are legal. Size F shot is illegal in Wisconsin. In addition, no person may possess any shotshell loaded with shot material other than nontoxic shot when hunting waterfowl, coots or gallinules.

Non-toxic shot currently approved for use:

- a. Steel shot,
- b. Steel shot with coatings of <1% total mass of either copper, nickel, zinc chromate, or zinc chloride,
- c. Bismuth-tin in a mixture of 97-3%, respectively,
- d. Tungsten-iron, and
- e. Tungsten-polymer

Non-toxic shot pending approval for use (please contact your local DNR Service Center in September for final confirmation):

- a. Tungsten-matrix, and
- b. Tin

- **Weapons transport (S):** Carry in or on a motor-driven boat while the motor is running, any firearm or bow unless such firearm is unloaded and such bow is unstrung or enclosed within a carrying case.
- **Notice:** Non-toxic shot will be required for all shotgun hunting, except wild turkey, on all Federally owned Waterfowl Production Areas (WPA).